

# Board Policy S-3: Student Discipline

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## REFERENCES

[Administrative Procedures for Board Policy S-3](#)  
[Utah Code §53A-11; 402; 404; 801; 803; 806; 901; 908; 910; and 1101](#)  
[Utah Code §53A-11a; 101-402](#)  
[Utah Code 53A-15-603](#)  
[Utah Code §76-10-105](#)  
[Utah Administrative Code R277- 436; 483; 609; 613; 615](#)  
[Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act – IDEIA](#)  
[Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act](#)  
[Common Gang Identifiers](#)

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## THE POLICY

It is the policy of the Salt Lake City School District Board of Education to require student conduct that produces a proper learning environment and respect for the personal, civil and property rights of all persons associated with the school community. The board authorizes school administrators to take appropriate action to preserve order in the school and to protect students, staff and patrons. Administrators will take disciplinary action when students engage in activities which disrupt the educational environment, threaten or harm persons or property, or disrupt school activities. Criminal acts or disruptive behavior of any kind are prohibited and any student who engages in such activity will be subject to school disciplinary action including suspension or the recommendation of expulsion, prosecution, or both, according to this policy and the accompanying administrative procedures.

Students with qualified disabilities may be disciplined under this policy. The school administrator will explain the separate procedures that may apply based on the procedural safeguards under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

The purpose of this policy is to provide a safe, secure and positive school environment for all students and employees and one in which students have the opportunity to assume personal responsibility for their learning, behavior and good citizenship.

### **Corporal Punishment & Reasonable Physical Restraint:**

Corporal punishment of a student is prohibited; however, school personnel may use reasonable physical restraint or force if necessary to protect a person from physical injury, to remove a violent or disruptive student or to protect property from being damaged.

### **Safe Schools:**

The Salt Lake City School District prohibits student acts of violence, bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, hazing, retaliation, aggression, disruptive behavior, use or possession of a weapon, criminal behavior, or gang activity, including the possession, use, wearing or displaying of any gang apparel or manner of grooming. These acts are prohibited in all Salt Lake City School District schools, on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities, or when students are being transported in district designated vehicles. Students are also prohibited from abetting, that is supporting, encouraging, and assisting in activities that violate this policy.

The board understands that members of certain groups, such as students with disabilities; students who are perceived to be overweight; students who are, or are perceived to be gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender; refugee and immigrant students; and students who are homeless, may be more likely to become targets of bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, or hazing. To better protect all students, each school will take specific steps, as part of its discipline plan, to create a safe, supportive environment for all populations. Each school will also formulate and publish a plan to teach skills and strategies for preventing and responding to bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, hazing, and retaliation to involve the community in improving school climate.

### **Drugs and Illegal Substances:**

The Salt Lake City School District further prohibits any misuse of any substance and any unauthorized student use, possession, sale or distribution of alcohol, controlled substances, imitation controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia in all Salt Lake City School District schools, on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities, or when students are being transported in district vehicles. Students are also prohibited from resorting, that is, being present knowingly and intentionally where alcohol, illegal or controlled substances or drug paraphernalia are displayed or used.

**Defaming Statements:**

Students will not knowingly make or publish false statements on the Internet, by fax, by cell phone or by any other means of communication that defame the character or reputation of a school employee or student. While students may have the right under appropriate circumstances to criticize school personnel or students, those rights do not include making false statements accusing school personnel or students of engaging in criminal or immoral acts that injure, harass or harm an individual.

**Off Campus Violations:**

Disciplinary sanctions may also apply to students whose conduct and involvement in a serious incident in locations other than on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities, or while being transported in district designated vehicles threatens or does harm to the school, school property or persons associated with the school.

**Tobacco:**

Student possession or use of tobacco in schools, at school sponsored activities, or on school grounds is prohibited by the Salt Lake City School District. It is against Utah State Law for students under the age of 19 to possess or use tobacco.

**Persistently Dangerous Schools:**

The Salt Lake City School District complies with the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act as specified in State Board Rule R277-483 Persistently Dangerous Schools.

**Employee Duty to Report:**

All employees will report to their principal or their immediate supervisor, any violations which they observe or become aware of regarding student conduct as outlined in this policy and accompanying procedures.